



DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
VA Western New York Healthcare System
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NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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VA WESTERN NEW YORK HEALTHCARE SYSTEM INVITES COMMUNITY TO "SALUTE VETERANS"

VA Western New York Healthcare System invites the public to participate in open-house activities Feb. 8-14 during the National Salute to Veterans.

"The National Salute to Veterans gives everyone a chance to let those who have given so much to our nation know that they are not forgotten," said David J. West Interim Medical Center Director "We've invited local celebrities, elected officials, school children and other groups to visit during the week. We want people of all ages to bring Valentine's Day cheer to our patients." West said he hopes visitors will also learn more about the important roles volunteers play at the medical center throughout the year and perhaps pursue volunteer opportunities. "Over 600 volunteers are an important part of our health care team in Buffalo and Batavia, and the National Salute program is a great way for people to learn more about helping the Veterans we serve," West said. "Visitors are often surprised at how varied our volunteer opportunities are." Citizens, young and old, are once again sending Valentine's Day cards and letters to VA medical centers simply addressed "Dear Veteran." West said they are being distributed to patients throughout the medical center.

VA Western New York Healthcare System's National Salute Week schedule includes an open house Friday, February 13 at 1:00 p.m. in Freedom Hall, room 301. Additional activities are included below.

Individuals or groups wishing to participate in the medical center program should call the Voluntary Service office, in Buffalo at 716-862-8671 and in Batavia at 585-297-1196.

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Monday, February 9	Buffalo	11:00 a.m. - noon	Cafe VA	Kevin Noonan (keyboard)
Monday, February 9	Buffalo	12:30 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.	Willow Lodge	Guitar Player Handsome Dan
Monday, February 9	Batavia	1:00 p.m.	All Lodges	Music by the Denison's
Monday, February 9	Buffalo	6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.	Freedom Hall	Taylor Made Jazz
Monday, February 9	Buffalo	8:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.	Freedom Hall	Dare to Dance
Tuesday, February 10	Buffalo	noon - 1:00 p.m.	Cafe VA	Amanda Majewski (music)
Tuesday, February 10	Buffalo	2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.	Freedom Hall	Morgan Street Stompers
Wednesday, February 11	Batavia	1:30 p.m.	All Lodges	Entertainment by Ron and Nancy
Wednesday, February 11	Buffalo	2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.	Freedom Hall	Friends of Harmony
Wednesday, February 11	Buffalo	3:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.	Freedom Hall	AAA Entertainment (dj)
Wednesday, February 11	Buffalo	6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.	Freedom Hall	Joyce Nixon Band
Wednesday, February 11	Buffalo	8:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.	Freedom Hall	Georges Jazz Band
Thursday, February 12	Buffalo	11:00 a.m. - noon	Cafe VA	Greg Nance (saxophone)
Thursday, February 12	Buffalo	1:00 p.m.	Willow Lodge	Faye Goldberg (music)
Thursday, February 12	Buffalo	1:00 p.m.	ADHC	Frank Kellish (piano)
Thursday, February 12	Buffalo	4 p.m. - 6 p.m.	Freedom Hall	Melissa Kay Project
Friday, February 13	Batavia	10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.	All Lodges	Entertainment by Dave Stocton
Friday, February 13	Buffalo	6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.	Freedom Hall	Bruce Small Band